

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CY, TU

SUBJ: SOME TURK CYPRIOTS REPORTEDLY MOVE BACK SOUTH

1. GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS HAS HAD OCCASION IN RECENT DAYS TO REPORT -- WITH OBVIOUS GLEE -- THAT NUMBER OF TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE BEEN CLANDESTINELY LEAVING NORTHERN CYPRUS FOR GREEK-CONTROLLED AREAS. PAPERS REPORT THAT 28 TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE LEFT TO DATE. LATEST STORY IS OF SIX TURK CYPRIOTS WHO HAVE ENTERED GOC AREA FROM DHEKELIA JUST SOUTH OF FAMAGUSTA.

2. USUAL STORY PLAYED HERE IS THAT SUCH TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE LEFT NORTH BECAUSE OF ONEROUS TREATMENT THEY HAVE RECEIVED FROM TURK TROOPS. LATEST GROUP PLACED ON GREEK CYPRIOT TV AND SAID THAT TURK TROOPS MADE THEM STAND GUARD DUTY AND ARE FAVORING THE "THOUSANDS" OF MIGRANTS FROM TURKEY OVER TURK CYPRIOTS. GROUP ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE SAID "SUCH IS THE INDIGNATION OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS THAT, HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR
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FEAR OF THE OCCUPATION TROOPS, MOST OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS

WHO MOVED NORTH WOULD BE READY TO COME BACK TO SOUTH."

3. COMMENT: THESE STORIES FIT IN WELL WITH GOC LINE THAT IF GREEK AND TURK CYPRIOTS WERE LEFT ALONE, THERE WOULD BE NO CYPRUS PROBLEM. MAKARIOS, FOR EXAMPLE, RECENTLY TOLD ATHENS TO VIMA CORRESPONDENT: "PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE BETWEEN THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS IS POSSIBLE IF AN END IS PUT TO EXTERNAL INTERVENTIONS AND IF A SOLUTION IS GIVEN TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM ENCOURAGING RAPPROCHEMENT AND NOT SEPARATION OF THE TWO ELEMENTS. THE SEPARATIST TRENDS OBSERVED TODAY IN THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY ARE INSTIGATED BY ANKARA AND DO NOT EXPRESS THE FREE WILL OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS."

4. TURK CYPRIOTS ARE SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED BY THIS BREAK IN THEIR IDEOLOGICAL UNITY OVER THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF TURKS LIVING AMONG GREEKS, AND DISMISS THESE INCIDENTS AS ABERRATIONS. IN EMBASSY'S OPINION, WHILE THERE IS GRUMBLING IN THE NORTH OVER THE ECONOMY, TURKISH IMMIGRATION, AND THE SOMETIMES HEAVY HAND OF THE TURKISH MILITARY, MOST TURK CYPRIOTS SHARE A GENUINE AND NEW-FOUND SENSE OF SECURITY IN THE NORTH WHICH THEY DO NOT WANT TO GIVE UP. ON BALANCE, THEREFORE, NUMBER OF TURKS WANTING TO RETURN SOUTH -- EVEN IFGJTHEY COULD -- IS LIKELY TO REMAIN VERY SMALL. END COMMENT.
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